

House Resolution No. 4751

Whereas, it is with special pleasure that the members of the Missouri House of Representatives pause to recognize Thomas Paine Friends, Inc., in Amherst, Massachusetts, an organization dedicated to increasing public awareness of Thomas Paine's contributions to independence, liberty, representative democracy, and to the founding of this country; and

Whereas, Thomas Paine was born in England and immigrated to Philadelphia in 1774, where he became an editor of the Pennsylvania Magazine and also published many works including the fifty-page pamphlet "Common Sense", which called for the independence of the American colonies; and

Whereas, Thomas Paine was a renowned author and true patriot whose other publications include "The American Crisis", "Rights of Man", "The Age of Reason", "Agrarian Justice", "African Slavery in America", and "Dissertation on First Principles of Government", just to name a few; and

Whereas, Thomas Paine's words on democracy, freedom, and liberty crystallized the idea of independence and gave hope and encouragement to those seeking a different path for this country; and

Whereas, John Adams said of Thomas Paine, "I know of no name in the world, in the last thirty years, who has had more influence on its inhabitants or affairs"; and

Whereas, for his lasting contributions to this country, Thomas Paine was elected to the New York University Hall of Fame in 1945, recognized by the United Nations for his efforts for world peace in 1987, and honored by USA Today "Newseum" as a "pioneer of journalism" in 1997; and

Whereas, the thoughts and ideals of Thomas Paine have been quoted by individuals as diverse as British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, President Ronald Reagan, and musician Bob Dylan:

Now, therefore, be it resolved that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-second General Assembly, unanimously join Thomas Paine Friends, Inc., in honoring Thomas Paine for the many contributions he made to the founding of this country and to the lives of all Americans; and

Be it further resolved that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution for presentation during Thomas Paine Day.

Offered by _____
Representative Rod Jetton
Speaker Pro Tem
District No. 156

I, Catherine L. Hanaway, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Ninety-second General Assembly, First Regular Session, do certify that the above is a true and correct copy of House Resolution No. 4751, adopted December 2, 2003.

Catherine L. Hanaway, Speaker